

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BUJUMB 00753 211517Z

51

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 INR-05 OPR-01 USIA-06 /020 W

----- 058907

P 211440Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4571

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUJUMBURA 0753

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, BY

SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE: NOMINATION FOR IV GRANT

REF BUJUMBURA A-73 OF 8/16/74 AND STATE 152195

1. MISSION WISHES NOMINATE FATHER GABRIEL BARAKANA, RECTOR OF UNIVERSITY OF BUJUMBURA, FOR A FULL FOREIGN LEADER GRANT UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM. \$3100 WAS BUDGETED FOR THIS PURPOSE IN COUNTRY PLAN PROPOSAL AS OUTLINED REFAIRGRAM, BUT EXPENSES MAY RISE SOMEWHAT OWING TO INFLATION.

2. THIS GRANT WOULD BE THE FIRST TO A BURUNDI OFFICIAL SINCE THE USG SUSPENDED THE CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN THE WAKE OF THE ETHNIC VIOLENCE THAT ERUPTED IN BURUNDI IN 1972. IT IS PART OF THE EFFORT TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS AND TO EXPOSE BURUNDI LEADERS TO AMERICAN VALUES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS, ESPECIALLY SINCE BURUNDI SOCIETY HAS TENDED TO TURN INWARD SINCE 1972. FATHER BARAKANA IS IN AN EXCELLENT POSITION TO INFLUENCE OPINION HERE, FOR HE HEADS THE COUNTRY'S ONLY UNIVERSITY AND AT TIMES ACTS AS SPIRITUAL ADVISOR AND GENERAL COUNSEL TO PRESIDENT MICOMBERO.

3. MISSION PROPOSES A US VISIT TO OBSERVE AND CONSULT. FATHER BARAKANA HAS EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT SINCE HIS OWN IS A FLEDGLING INSTITUTION THAT IS STILL HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND FOREIGN PROFESSORS (MAINLY FROM WESTERN EUROPE). HE WILL WANT TO MEET PEOPLE IN UNIVERSITIES, FOUNDATIONS, CHURCHES, AND GOVERNMENT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BUJUMB 00753 211517Z

WHO MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE UNIVERSITY FINANCIALLY OR

OTHERWISE AID ITS GROWTH. HIS PROGRAM SHOULD INCLUDE A SAMPLING OF OUR PRIVATE AND STATE UNIVERSITIES, PREFERABLY SMALLER SCHOOLS OF QUALITY, AT LEAST ONE OF WHICH HAS A BLACK MAJORITY STUDENT BODY. A CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY AND A COLLEGE WITH A WELL DEVELOPED AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM WOULD ALSO INTEREST HIM, WE BELIEVE. HE MIGHT PROFIT FROM VIEWING PROGRAMS THAT FEATURE INTERACTION BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES, SUCH AS WORK WITH POOR, SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS, ETC. OTHERWISE THE PROGRAM SHOULD INCLUDE AS BROAD A VIEW OF AMERICAN LIFE IN GENERAL AS IS POSSIBLE IN A MONTH'S TIME FRAME, WITH SOME OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM TO TOUCH BASE WITH NON-EDUCATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH INSTITUTIONS IN U.S.

4. THE PROPOSED TIME OF THE TRIP IS MAY 1974, WHICH IS WHEN FATHER BARAKANA HAS JUST INDICATED THAT HE EXPECTS TO BE FREE TO TRAVEL (WE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO PIN DOWN A PRECISE TIME BEFORE).

5. BIO SUMMARY: FATHER BARAKANA WAS BORN IN 1916 AND EDUCATED IN CHURCH SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES IN BURUNDI, ITALY AND BELGIUM. HE ENTERED THE JESUIT SOCIETY IN 1953. HE WAS A TEACHER, THEN RECTOR OF THE LEADING SECONDARY SCHOOL (JESUIT-RUN) IN BUJUMBURA FROM 1960 TO 1971. IN 1971 HE BECAME RECTOR OF THE (OFFICIAL) UNIVERSITY OF BUJUMBURA. HE HAS WIDE CONNECTIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUFZRY, PARTICULARLY IN THE TUTSI ESTABLISHMENT. HE IS URBANE, CHARMING, AND DISARMING, BUT HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED AND INTELLECTUAL. HE HAS LONG BEEN FRIENDLY TOWARD AMERICANS AND IS CONSIDERED VERY MODERATE IN TUTSI TERMS. INDEED, HE IS ONE OF THE FEW TUTSIS TO SPEAK FAIRLY FRANKLY ABOUT THE ETHNIC PROBLEMS OF BURUNDI AND TO CHAMPION PUBLIC CRITICISM, LIBERTY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

6. LANGUAGE: FATHER BARAKANA SPEAKS ONLY A FEW WORDS OF ENGLISH, BUT HIS FRENCH IS PERFECT. HE WOULD NEED A FRENCH INTERPRETER-TRAVEL COMPANION ON THE TRIP.

7. DEPARTMENT APPROVAL OF THIS GRANT WOULD MEET REQUIREMENT MENTIONED REFTL THAT 40 PERCENT OF MISSION'S NON-EDUCATIONAL ALLOCATION BE OBLIGATED BY NOV 30. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT APPROVAL CONSTITUTES SUCH OBLIGATION; OR, IF BY ANY CHANCE IT DOES NOT, LET US KNOW WHAT ELSE WE MUST DO TO TIE FUNDS DOWN. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BUJUMB 00753 211517Z

MARK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUJUMB00753
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740337-0466
From: BUJUMBURA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741125/aaaaauuf.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BUJUMBURA A-73 OF 8/16/74 AND STATE, 152195
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE: NOMINATION FOR IV GRANT
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, BY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005